World Alliance News Letter

The purpose of the Church Peace Union and World Alliance is to promote international friendship and peace, and to mobilize into a conscious force for international goodwill all men and women who share in the great hope of a world in which war will have been abolished. The World Alliance News Letter *is published every month, except July and August, by the Church Peace Union and the American Council of the World Alliance. The* News Letter *is sent to all members of the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches. Individual membership $1.00 a year. Quantity rates for churches and schools.*

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This Will Be The "Peace Conference"

All eyes are focused on San Francisco. April 25th is the eventful day toward which our minds are directed. This will be the "peace table" of which we have been talking for many months. This will be the "green baize table" at which the cynics and the scoffers sneer, but which elicits from them a grudging admiration because it is an example of democratic procedures and of representative government.

The San Francisco Tapestry

Mr. Archibald MacLeish, Assistant Secretary of State, remarked recently that the conferences and meetings of the United Nations in these latter years have all been a part of the "peace conference." All the threads, he noted, will be brought together at San Francisco to make the tapestry of world organization. In this April 25th meeting, the varying strands of the food conference at Hot Springs, the UNRRA gathering in Atlantic City, the financial discussions of Bretton Woods, the preliminary negotiations of Dumbarton Oaks, and the aviation conference in Chicago, will be united into what we have long sought – a United Nations organization. The meetings at Quebec and Casablanca, through Moscow, Teheran, and Cairo, on to the meetings at Malta, Yalta, and Alexandria, have all presaged this fateful conference in San Francisco. There will be no formal "peace conference" in the old sense of the word – no Council of Vienna as in 1814-15, no Portsmouth Parley as in 1905, no Paris Peace Conference as in 1919.

San Francisco in April of 1945 will determine the destiny of the world for the next century. If the United Nations do not reach an agreement at San Francisco, we may not have the chance for another half century to establish the kind of peace we need with provisions to restrain aggression and prevent war from becoming our principal occupation. When we think of April 25th we remind our American delegation in a paraphrase of Phillips Brooks: "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in you that day."

Community Action Needed

By the time this issue of the *News Letter* reaches you, there will remain less than three weeks in which to focus public opinion on the issues and events of this great conference. Community action must be enlisted to secure wide public interest in these meetings. To this end, the churches should gear their programs.

Too much has been lost in the past twenty-five years to let this opportunity slip from our fingers. Millions of lives have been lost and tens of millions of lives have been totally disrupted. Billions of dollars in property have been destroyed. A dozen of the world's greatest cities have been razed to the ground and scores more have been irreparably damaged. But now is the time when we can again begin to build.

Our first objective is collective security based upon military power. But there is a second objective, a parallel goal: the security and welfare of all peoples everywhere in a world of peace based on justice. But the ends in view will not be achieved by sleight of hand or wishful thinking. These objectives of world order will demand sacrifices and compromises of such a sort as to baffle the faint-hearted and dismay the lion-hearted. But we must not be deterred. We may be tempted to join with utopians and perfectionists in making reservations here and taking exceptions there, but we dare not indulge ourselves in such dubious luxuries. The cynics and the scoffers may impede us, but our eyes must be focused upon the prime objective: *world organization.*

This in truth is an hour of decision. Its solemnity and greatness bring humility to our hearts. April 25th in San Francisco can be the dawn of a new day, the beginning of a new era; but only if each of us accepts his responsibility and is true to the faith of his fathers.

Action Now

Thirty-six national organizations, which include both the Church Peace Union and the World Alliance, have joined in promoting Dumbarton Oaks Week. This is a concerted effort to rally public opinion in this momentous time behind the objectives of the San Francisco Conference, opening April 25.

That Conference will write into treaty form the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. It will be the opportunity of our generation to help realize our hopes for a world free from war. Every individual shares certain responsibilities, but the churches and religious organizations have a special responsibility. Without the influence of moral forces on the deliberations of the Conference, a world of justice and peace cannot be realized. Forty state governors have already intimated that they will issue proclamations to the citizens of their state to promote study and discussion. An informed public opinion giving well-considered support is necessary to success.

The ways in which you can help are the following:

1. Support or promote community meetings or demonstrations in your city.

2. See that mid-week services in the churches and service clubs, men's and women's groups, labor unions and local organizations give time to the discussion of this Conference.

3. Suggest to local newspapers editorials stressing the necessity for the moral forces bringing their influence to bear on the economic and political problems to be discussed at the Conference.

4. On Sunday, April 22, focus the worship service and sermon on prayerful intercession for the Conference.

5. Help arrange United Nations exhibits and poster displays in store windows, libraries, and other public places. Write to the O.W.I., Division of Public Inquiries, Washington, D. C., and to the Films and Exhibitions Department, United Nations Information Office, 610 Fifth Avenue, New York 20, N. Y., for posters and other exhibit material.

6. Ask your church, library or local school to arrange public showings of films on the United Nations. For a listing of such films write to New Tools for Learning, 280 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N. Y., Films and Exhibitions Department, United Nations Information Office, 610 Fifth Avenue, New York 20, N. Y., and to the Educational Films Library Association, 45 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y.

This is the time when we must bring the resources of our historic faiths to bear in arousing the imagination and in strengthening the will of the common people. The citizens of the United States must be urged to a wholehearted support of international organization. Our task is to inspire the American people to help mold the world to the pattern outlined by the ethical imperatives of the Judaeo-Christian tradition with its mandate to achieve the brotherhood of man beneath the Fatherhood of God.

Realism And Idealism

At the recent National Study Conference of the Federal Council's Commission on a Just and Durable Peace, one of the outstanding addresses was given by the chairman of the Commission, Mr. John Foster Dulles, prominent Protestant layman. Four of the most significant paragraphs in Mr. Dulles' eloquent address have been chosen for quotation in the *News Letter* because of their direct relation to the United Nations meeting soon to be held in San Francisco. Mr. Dulles said in part:

> The immediate difficulty is not external, but internal. We cannot expect our Government to seek to cooperate on world problems unless that is what the American people want and unless they want it sufficiently to be tolerant of results which, in themselves, will often be unsatisfactory. We must change the standard by which we will judge our Government's performance.
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> How and under what conditions will the needed tolerance be forthcoming? We do not want tolerance which is mere indifference. We do not want tolerance which reflects a conscious abandonment or lowering of ideals. We do not want tolerance which excludes the right freely to speak in aid of ideals. Collaboration must not be bought at that price.
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> What, then, is this "tolerance" of which we speak, and which alone can make collaboration a living thing? It is not a compromise of our ideals. Rather, it is the acceptance, provisionally, of practical situations which fall short of our ideals. The vital word in that sentence is the word "provisionally." We cannot agree to solutions which fall short of our ideals if thereby we become morally bound to sustain and perpetuate them. That would be stultifying. It is the possibility of *change* which is the bridge between idealism and the practical incidents of collaboration. That possibility is an imperative for Christians who must constantly maintain tension with any worldly order.
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> Let us give thought to how world organization and our other long-range objectives can be made live realities. There is a dangerous gap between plans and resolutions on paper and their translation into actual practice. We ought to help to close that gap. The difficulties are many and partly beyond the range of our immediate influence. That makes it the more imperative that we exhaust the possibilities that are within ourselves. May it be that we can make more clear for ourselves and for our fellows, that idealism is not irreconcilable with the practical incidents of international collaboration? Can we do something towards removing the impression abroad that the American people are primarily interested in perfecting paper plans? Can we do something to allay our government's obvious fear that it will be harshly and unfairly judged if it goes in for collaboration at the low level of actualities rather than the high level of theory? May it be that, in such ways, we can become a sufficiently greater force for good so that we can decisively tip the balance in favor of a better world?

On The Political Home Front

Senate and House: On March 7th the House Banking and Currency Committee commenced hearings on the Bretton Woods financial agreements. The Senate is not now expected to take up these agreements until action has been completed by the House. Consequently, consideration of legislation to enable the United States to accept these agreements may take six weeks or more.

Mexico Conference: Progress was made by the Inter-American Conference on three developments of particular interest: (1) a mutual guarantee of aid against aggression; (2) a strengthening of the Pan American Union as an inter-American political body, which may permit it to function as an American regional agency in accordance with Chapter VIII, Section C of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals; and (3) economic arrangements to cover the transition period from war to peace.

Act of Chapultepec: This provides that if acts of aggression occur or are threatened against the integrity or independence of any American Republic, signatories to this Act shall consult together upon measures to take, including diplomatic pressure, economic and financial sanctions and the use of armed force. This Act may well be a turning point in inter-American history. For 120 years the protection of the American Republics against aggression from overseas has rested upon the Monroe Doctrine, supplemented recently by hemisphere agreements for consultation and solidarity. But there has been no provision to protect the American Republics from aggression by one of their own number.

Mexico City and San Francisco: One of the problems for San Francisco is to bring into accord the American regional security system and the world security system. According to the Dumbarton Oaks proposals: "no enforcement action shall be taken under regional arrangements or by regional agencies without the authorization of the Security Council."

American Delegates to the San Francisco Conference: The wisdom with which the President appointed the delegates to represent the United States at the San Francisco Conference has received wide acclaim. The delegates will be led by Secretary of State Stettinius. With him will be associated Mr. Hull, Senator Connally, Commander Stassen, Congressman Bloom, Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, Senator Vandenberg, and Congressman Eaton. The many favorable expressions by Congressmen are encouraging. Senator Johnson of Colorado, Democrat, is reported to have told a constituent recently that he will vote for a treaty based on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals and will fight against any moves to cripple it with reservations. Senator Tobey of New Hampshire, Republican, remarked: "I strongly favor our participation in an association of nations, with power to put down aggression when it shows its head."

Community Activities

Radio Broadcast Series

The people of the United States will have a valuable opportunity to hear about America's part in world organization by means of a weekly broadcast series entitled "Our Foreign Policy". Members of the Department of State, the Senate and House Foreign Relations Committees will be the speakers. The National Broadcasting Company network will carry this series on Saturdays, 7:00-7:30 p.m., E.W.T., until the opening of the San Francisco Conference of April 25.

Temple Emanu-El Centenary

As part of its centennial celebration, the Congregation Emanu-El, 5th Avenue at 56th Street, New York City, has sponsored a brilliant series of guest speakers and lecturers throughout the past winter. Some of the leading speakers were: Prof. Alvin S. Johnson, Director, New School for Social Research, "The Problem of Race in the World of Tomorrow"; Prof. Irwin Edman, Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University, "World Vision for World Order"; Prof. Eduard C. Lindeman, New York School of Social Work, "The Sources of Value for Modern Man"; Mr. Kent Cooper, Executive Director of the Associated Press, "Truthful News, A Basis For Peace"; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Bishop of the Methodist Church, New York Area, "Building Tomorrow's World"; Prof. Hans Kohn, Professor of History, Smith College, "History as the Foundation for the World of Tomorrow"; and Dr. Vera Micheles Dean, Research Director of the Foreign Policy Asso., "Foundations for a Better World Order". The rabbi of the Temple, Dr. Samuel H. Goldenson, has remarked: "Unless men's thinking and conduct are informed by the thought of God and humanity, they will never build the kind of world that will bring healing and hope, faith and confidence, freedom and security to them, whether they are white or black, whether they are of one creed or another, and whether they live in one land or another."

Worcester Meetings

A series of Lenten addresses devoted to postwar problems was held recently in the Chestnut Street Congregational Church of Worcester, Massachusetts, of which Dr. Walter Amos Morgan is minister. The subjects centered around "Christian Attitudes Towards Defeated Germany" given by Rabbi Levi Olan; "Our Returning Youth In Uniform" by Dr. M. B. Durfee, head of Worcester Child Guidance Clinic; "The Rights of Small Nations" by Dr. Paul Fisher, Professor at Clark University, formerly of Vienna; "Compulsory Military Training For America" by Dr. Leroy A. Campbell, headmaster at Worcester Academy; "Communism: Friend or Foe" by a prominent economist; and "Dumbarton Oaks" by Professor Francis Jones, State Teacher's College.

SUGGESTED READING

In relation to the article on page 6 entitled "The Returning Serviceman" written by Dr. Amandus W. Loos of Chicago, the following pamphlets are recommended for careful perusal by clergy and laity alike.

No. 1 (*"Attitudes and Needs"*) and No. 4 (*"Welcoming the Wounded"*) of the series issued by the Federal Council of Churches under the general heading *"The Church and Returning Service Personnel."*

Material of especial value for use with service wives is found in the kit prepared by the National Council YMCA, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17. Paul Popenoe's pamphlet (included in the kit), *"Make the War Strengthen Your Marriage"*, has been pointed to by both service men and their wives as having a particular value for them.

Other helpful pamphlets are, *"When He Comes Back"* and *"If He Comes Back Nervous"* by Rennie and Woodward (National Committee for Mental Hygiene, Inc., 1790 Broadway, New York 19, New York. 15c).

International Tribunals: Past and Future by Manley O. Hudson. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, D. C. $2.00.

Judge Hudson, one of the most eminent of international jurists, shares his experience and scholarship. This study of world legal tribunals is essential for all students in the field.

Facing the Future Unafraid by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam. Fleming H. Revell, New York. $1.00.

A brief, compact volume by Bishop Oxnam which contains four eloquent chapters full of radiant hope for a generation that seems to be groping in darkness. The title of the first chapter, "Singing at Midnight," indicates something of the nature and charm of the book. Its motto might well be "Blessed is he who at midnight is sure of the dawn."

World Commodities and World Currency by Benjamin Graham. McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York. $2.00.

A careful study of one of the most difficult issues the postwar world will have to face. It offers splendid technical material to those who want to carry farther the study of the Bretton Woods Agreement. A book for students and experts in economics.

Dumbarton Oaks — *Study — Support — Improve.* Published by Joint Division of Education and Cultivation, Board of Missions and Church Extension, The Methodist Church. May be obtained from this office. Free in limited quantities.

An admirable 8 page leaflet on Dumbarton Oaks in question and answer form. Deals briefly with the make-up of the proposed World Organization and suggests study material and methods of action.

From Cleveland to San Francisco. Commission on a Just and Durable Peace, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. Single copies, together with the text of the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals, 10 cents postpaid. Quantity rates.

This excellent pamphlet is based upon recommendations regarding the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. The content is drawn from "A Message to the Churches" of the National Study Conference of the Commission on a Just and Durable Peace held at Cleveland, January 16-19, 1945. It should be used now in all church schools and discussion groups.

Prisoners Quest by D. H. C. Read, MacMillan Co., N. Y. $1.50.

A British chaplain dispells the ennui of his stay in a German prison camp by lecturing to his fellow prisoners of war. The series of talks, given in the spring and summer of 1942, comprises a vivid presentation of the Christian faith. The book is brief but complete, profound but light in touch. Another example of faith strengthened and made new under duress and hardship.

After Victory by Vera Micheles Dean. Headline Series, Foreign Policy Association, New York. 25 cents; quantity rates on request.

A valuable discussion of security as "everybody's business." A clear picture of the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals with an excellent chart. Questions and answers covering all the important issues regarding world organization. Illustrated by diagrams and cartoons.

The United Nations—An organization for peace and world progress. Department of State, Washington, D. C.

1) A wall chart about 22" x 28"; 2) a two-fold folder containing the chart in two colors, and the text of the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals with the voting procedure; 3) a pamphlet on radio programs on *Building the Peace;* and 4) a series of four Foreign Affairs Outlines for discussion leaders. Suitable for Church and Sunday School leaders. Requests for the above should be sent direct to the State Department.

United Nations Plans for Post-War Education by C. Mildred Thompson. Foreign Policy Association, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16. 25 cents.

An interesting report on the work of the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education; what it has accomplished and a discussion of the important part the United States can play in the reconstruction of educational facilities.

Peace Through Cooperation by J. Henry Carpenter. Harper & Bros., New York. $1.25.

The story of a journey made by Dr. Carpenter at the invitation of official China to study the cooperative movement as it has developed in that country. Dr. Carpenter enthusiastically believes in this enterprise. His faith and belief seem to be justified by what he saw of its contribution to China.

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